

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 28 are in this application and are presented for consideration. By this Amendment, Applicant has made a minor change to independent claim 1. By the Amendment Applicant provides the further requirement in the claim that the central module is movable. As such, the method claimed cannot be practiced by a materially different apparatus in that it does require a movable central module.

Applicant hereby elects claims 13 - 28 drawn to a device for positioning components to be joined. However, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection as the claims as now presented do not require restriction. In particular, the process claim cannot be practiced by another materially different apparatus or by hand and the apparatus as claimed cannot be used to practice another materially different process. In view of the close relationship between the method and apparatus, it is also believed that a single examination on the merits would be preferable. It is believed that a single search can be effective in regard to examining all claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the requirement for restriction and examine all claims on the merits.

Favorable consideration on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,



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JJM:jj/tf
71241-15

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SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-
0410.